

Filed for intro on 01/26/98  
SENATE BILL 2383 By  
Cooper

HOUSE BILL 2604  
By Burchett

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 53, Chapter 7, relative to labeling of certain foods.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 53, Chapter 7, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section thereto:

Section \_\_\_\_\_. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the container of any meat, meat food product or poultry product for retail sale shall contain a date after which such date the meat, meat food product or poultry product should be considered unwholesome and should be discarded.

(b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to:

(1) Meat which is not purchased in a container and which is examined by the purchaser before such meat is covered with paper, plastic or such other wrapping immediately prior to the purchase of such meat;

(2) Fish and other foods harvested from fresh or salt waters;

(3) Canned meat products; or

(4) Canned or frozen foods which contain meat, meat food products or poultry products and at least two (2) other ingredients.

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(c) The commissioner is authorized to promulgate such rules and regulations as in the commissioner's judgment will implement and help effectuate the purposes of this section.

(d) A violation of this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

(e) In addition, the commissioner or the commissioner's designee may file for an injunction in the county in which an offense under this section occurred and, if the court concludes the offender is guilty of violating this section, the court may enjoin such offender or manager or other person in charge from processing, handling, transporting or any other activity done in conjunction with meat or poultry for a period of not less than ten (10) days or until such time as the offender complies with the provisions of this section. The injunction commences on the day following the date the judgment becomes final.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1998, the public welfare requiring it.